GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:698
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2007
INSPECTION OF ROADS CONSTRUCTED UNDER PMGSY
Bose Shri Subrata;Manoj Dr. K.S.;Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the roads constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Yojana (PMGSY) are being inspected regularly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the random inspections carried out by the National Quality Monitors in various States between July, 2004 and September, 2006 of the roads thus constructed as reported in the Hindustan Times dated January 17, 2007;

(d) if so, the States in which such inspections were carried out and the findings thereof;

(e) the quality of the roads inspected in each States; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on the basis of inspection report alongwith the steps taken to get the damaged roads repaired, if any?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. In accordance with the Programme Guidelines on Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), State Governments are responsible for ensuring the quality of road works. The Programme envisages a three- tier quality control mechanism. The Programme Implementation Unit (PIU) is the first-tier whose primarily responsibility is to ensure that all the material utilized and the workmanship conform to prescribed specifications. The second tier consists of Quality Control Units, which are engaged by the State Governments. They are expected to carry out regular inspections and also get samples of material used tested in laboratories in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the State Governments. The State Governments are responsible for first two-tiers of this Quality Control Structure. For the third tier, National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) engages monitors for inspection of the road works under the Programme. These persons are designated as National Quality Monitors (NQM).

(c) to(e) Yes, Sir. A statement indicating the States where inspections carried out by National Quality Monitors (NQMs) from July 2004 to September 2006 and the grading given to the road works is annexed.

(f) The detailed guidelines for grading of work as `satisfactory/unsatisfactory` have been prescribed by NRRDA and quality grading of any work as `unsatisfactory` does not always mean that the road is damaged. National Quality Monitors submits the inspection reports to (a) the State Quality Co-ordinator and (b) NRRDA. The State Government is required to initiate action on these reports and forward the Action Taken Report to NRRDA. In case of `Unsatisfactory` graded works where adequate corrective action has been taken and verified as per the prescribed procedure, NRRDA takes further action to improve the quality grade of work. The findings of NQMs in terms of quality grading are discussed with the States in every Review Meeting and the meetings of Empowered Committee constituted for the purpose of clearance of Project Proposals.